

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for hosting a virtual art gallery on a network comprising the steps of:  
providing, on a network, a host system configured with a plurality of gallery accounts  
including at least a first gallery account,

5 receiving, through the network at the host system, a request for read-only access to the  
first gallery account by a first user; and

providing, on the network to the first user, the first gallery account in a read-only access  
mode;

10 where each of the plurality of gallery accounts has a gallery item limit, gallery personal  
information, gallery qualification information, a gallery environment, and at least a first gallery  
item, and where each of the plurality of gallery accounts is characterized by at least two access  
modes including the read-only access mode and a qualified access mode;

where each of the gallery items is characterized by at least a virtual size; and

15 where the first gallery account in the read-only access mode is configured to allow access  
to at least two representations of the first gallery item and the gallery environment including a  
two-dimensional representation and a virtual reality representation.

2. The method claim 1 further comprising:

receiving, on the network at the host system, a request for qualified access to the first gallery account by a second user; and

providing, on the network to the second user, the first gallery account in the qualified access mode;

where the first gallery account in the qualified access mode is configured to allow the second user to modify the associated gallery personal information, the associated gallery qualification information, to add a second gallery item, and to remove the first gallery item.

3. A system for hosting a virtual art gallery on a network comprising:

a host system on the network configured with a plurality of gallery accounts including at least a first gallery account,

where each of the plurality of gallery accounts has a gallery item limit, gallery personal information, gallery qualification information, a gallery environment, and at least a first gallery item, and where each of the plurality of gallery accounts is characterized by at least two access modes including the read-only access mode and a qualified access mode; and

a first local terminal configured for a first user to access the first gallery account on the host system over the network in read-only access mode,

where each of the gallery items is characterized by at least a virtual size; and

where the first gallery account in the read-only access mode is configured to allow access to at least two representations of the first gallery item and the gallery environment including a two-dimensional representation and a virtual reality representation.

4. The system of claim 3 further comprising:

a second terminal configured for a second user to access the first gallery account on the host system over the network in qualified access mode,

5 where the first gallery account in the qualified access mode is configured to allow the second user to modify the associated gallery personal information, the associated gallery qualification information, to add a second gallery item, and to remove the first gallery item.

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